CITY MANAGER BULLETIN

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Harrison G. Otis, Executive Secretary.

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CINCINNATI - NOVEMBER 15-17.

The seventh annual meeting of the City Managers' Association will be held in Cincinnati, November 15 to 17, 1920. Following the report of the membership referendum published in our June issue of the Bulletin, several western votes came in swinging the lead from Buffalo to Cincinnati, and our executive committee, taking its cue from the expressed wish of the members voted six to two in favor of Cincinnati; one vote each going to Buffalo and Dubuque. Likewise November won over October by a vote of seven to one.

Our invitation from the Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce is most cordial and announcement of headquarters, hotel rates, and other matters, will be made in due time. Put a red ring around November 15 to 17 on your engagement calendar.

SIXTH YEARBOOK OUT

The Sixth Yearbook of the C.M.A. has been published and mailed out to all members of the association and to our advertisers. It consists of 184 pages in addition to 50 pages of advertising, making it the largest volume yet published by the association.

Four suggestions are made:

1. Those of you who assisted in securing the advertisements may well drop a line to the firms you recommended, expressing your appreciation of their cooperation.

2. Look over all of the advertisements and keep them in mind when in the market for service or supplies. Almost without exception these firms have been recommended by city managers.

3. Order sufficient copies of the yearbook to supply all members of your city council and department heads. This will help the association and should be of interest to those associated with you, and can in no wise reflect discredit upon you unless you chance to be one of the few who should have sent in a report, and neglected to do so.

4. Please make use of the enclosed announcement cards, by either sending them to those whom you know to be interested in the movement, or to those who write for information concerning the manager plan.

Conditions change so rapidly in the manager field, that some of the items in the yearbook are already out of date, and it is, of course, to be regretted that managers who have joined the association since the first of July still appear in the yearbook as on the waiting list. Comments and criticisms will be appreciated and passed on to the next secretary for his guidance.

"IS THE CITY MANAGER PLAN A SUCCESS?"

The above is the heading of a fourteen page mimeograph report prepared by the Sacramento Chamber of Commerce. The body of the report is made up of quotations from letters received from attorneys, Chamber of Commerce secretaries, and others from 53 cities operating under the commission-manager plan. This report constitutes one of the strongest endorsements yet received by the new form of government, as it is clearly evident that the majority of writers are quite unbiased in their verdict. Sacramento's charter commission has drafted a commission-manager charter to supercede the present commission form charter, the question of the change being presented to the voters at the election next November. The introduction to the report follows:

"To secure first-hand information on the practicability of the City Manager form of government, the Sacramento Chamber of Commerce made inquiry of chambers of commerce, newspaper editors and individual citizens in a number of cities where the plan is in operation. Such letters were not addressed to City Managers or other City Officials, for an absolutely unprejudiced opinion was sought.

"It is a very significant fact that in the letters of response there was a SWEEPING EXPRESSION IN FAVOR OF THE CITY MANAGER PLAN. In not a single instance was it declared that the plan is a failure. On the contrary, as shown by the following, there were many very enthusiastic endorsements of the method.

"It is thus shown there is nothing wildly theoretical in the City Manager Plan - IT ACTUALLY WORKS, AND IT WORKS TO THE ADVANTAGE OF ALL THE CITIZENS. This, after all is the greatest essential of good government.

"Other letters were sent to cities having the Commission form of government, such as Sacramento has, and a large majority of the answers voiced dissatisfaction and complaint, a number stating that there was strong sentiment for the City Manager form".

RECORD MONTH FOR THE C. M. A.

June has broken all records for activities of the City Managers' Association. The amount received from membership dues was $220. The previous high-water mark last November, including dues paid at the convention, was $165.

During June, thirty new members were added - one for each day in the month, - nearly twice as many as during any previous month in the Association's history. In addition to the hundreds of bulletins, cards and yearbooks sent out, the secretary wrote and mailed 475 letters, - another record.

The fact that managers may come and managers may go, but the Association gathers no moss, is best brought out by a letter written July 7th, 1917, by W. L. Miller, secretary, to C. E. Carr, president of the City Managers' Association. Mr. Miller listed twelve managers as the total membership of the Association in good standing. Of these twelve, only one is still serving as city manager.

A tabulation of the total dues account as of July 7th for the six years of the Association follows:

	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920
Active	$ 0.	$100.	$60.	$200.	$345.	$630.
Associate					210.	372.
Total	$ 0.	$100.	$60.	$200.	$555.	$1,002.

APPOINTMENTS

Sanford, Fla. C. J. Ryan is Sanford's second city manager. He succeeds G. A. Abbott who resigned recently. Mr. Ryan is a mechanical engineer, 38 years old. He has served as manager of municipal utilities at Lake City, Fla. for 12 years. His salary is $3,900. Mr. Abbott is now executive secretary of the Whitehall Community Association, Whitehall, N. Y.

Kenilworth, Ill. F. L. Stroed, has been appointed village manager to take office September 1st; is an associate member of the C. M. A., and is now serving as assistant manager at Winnetka, Ill.

West Liberty, Ia. C. J. Mackey was appointed West Liberty's first city manager in April, 1920. Mr. Mackey is 50 years old, and has served six years as mayor of West Liberty. His salary is $2,000.

Albion, Mich. E. J. Mallory became manager June 16th, succeeding W. E. Baumgardner; salary $2,000. Mr. Mallory is 51 years of age, and has had no special training nor experience in public service.

Alpena, Mich. W. E. Baumgardner, who has served as manager at Albion, Mich. for the past two years, has been appointed to the position made vacant by the resignation of Charles T. Park. Mr. Baumgardner's salary is $4,000, an increase of 100 percent over that previously paid him by Albion. This promotion is the thirty-fourth case of a city manager being transferred from one city to another.

Grand Haven, Mich. Paul R. Taylor of Kansas City, Mo. hasbeen appointed manager at $3,500. He took office July 15th.

Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Henry Sherman, assistant superintendent of a local leather company, succeeds W. M. Rich, salary $3,400.

Watervliet, N. Y. Henry E. Gabriels has been appointed manager to fill the vacancy created by the death of James B. McLeese. Mr. Gabriels is a graduate of Niagara University and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He is 34 years old, a civil engineer, and a resident of Watervliet; his salary is $4,500.

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Elizabeth City, N. C. J. C. Commander, who served as Elizabeth City's first manager during 1915 and 1916, was reappointed manager January, 1920, at a salary of $2,400.

Hendersonville, N. C. Population 4,160. G. W. Brooks was appointed city manager July 1. The position was probably created by ordinance only.

Springfield, Ohio. Edgar E. Parsons has been chosen to fill the vacancy created by the promotion of O. E. Carr to Dubuque, Ia. Mr. Parsons is an engineer and is a native of Springfield, although for some years has lived in other cities. He served as a captain in France during the war; his salary is set at $6,000.

LaGrande, Ore. George Garrett, city engineer, has been appointed manager to succeed John Collier.

Bryan, Tex. E. E. McAdams was appointed city manager June 15th.

OPENINGS

So far as known, no appointments have as yet been made to the following vacancies previously announced in this bulletin: Otsego, Michigan; Brownwood and Ranger, Texas; Duncan, Oklahoma; Coraopolis, Pennsylvania; and the three Virginia cities; Hampton, Newport News, and Petersburg. Probably all three of these positions will be filled during July or August. Letters have been received from each asking to be put in touch with possible candidates.

Newburgh, N. Y. W. Johnston McKay is resigning to resume charge of private affairs, and asks that this opening be made known to members of the C. M. A. Mr. McKay advises that all is going well at Newburgh, and he will be on hand to assist his successor. This seems to be an excellent opportunity for the right man. The salary will probably range from $3,600 to $5,000.

Beaufort, S. C. Population 5,000. J. Albert Kinghorn, the mayor, asks for applications for the position of manager, as H. R. Pollitzer has resigned. A man of middle age, experienced in accounting is desired. The salary will approximate $2,400.

Richmond, Calif. Population 10,000. Adopted the manager plan by ordinance June 28. A manager was to have been appointed by July 15 at which time the ordinance becomes effective.

Lufkin, Texas. L. Mitchell has resigned as manager, his resignation to take effect in July. His successor has not been chosen and applications will be received within the next few weeks.

Mansfield, Mass. Population 6,000. Adopted the town manager plan at a town meeting July 12, by a vote of 508 to 255. Five selectmen will be elected January, 1921, and they will appoint the manager.

Colorado Springs, Colo. Population 35,000. A commission-manager charter was adopted at the election held July 6. It becomes effective April, 1921.

San Jose, Calif. W. C. Bailey, city manager, plans to resign soon. Candidates may well get in touch with him.

Winnetka, Ill. The position of assistant manager will be open September 1, due to the promotion of F. L. Streed to the managership at Kenilworth, Ill. Applicants should get in touch with H. L. Woolhiser, business manager at Winnetka, who advises that the position will pay about $2,100 a year.

SALARIES

The salaries of city managers not previously reported in the bulletin are: F. G. Connelly, Estherville, Ia. $3,000; J. J. Curle, Cynthiana, Ky., $1,200; P. T. Mitchell, Eaton Rapids, Mich., $2,500; Sidney B. Strong, Plymouth, Mich., $3,000; W. M. Rich, Goldsboro, N. C., $4,500; H. J. Bradshaw, Stamford, Tex., $3,000. Recent salary increases are: Maurice Lowman, Birmingham, Mich., $2,750 to $3,600; M. H. Turner, Ashtabula, O., $3,000 to $3,500. The salary of R. L. Pickett, High Point, N. C. is $3,000 instead of $2,700 as previously reported.

SCRATCH OFF TARBORO

A letter from H. D. Hardison, mayor of Tarboro, N. C. advises that his city abandoned the city manager plan in May, 1919. Tarboro created the position of manager by local ordinance in April, 1915. The so-called manager served also as city clerk and treasurer and had no supervision over the police department, nor was he vested with appointive powers. This failure of another "near-manager" plan gives North Carolina the lead in percentage. Of its four attempts, three have been total failures. California has lost five out of ten, and of Pennsylvania's ten efforts at the manager plan by ordinance, five have been discontinued.

NEW C. M. A. MEMBERS

Active:
Geo. R. Belding, City Manager, Hot Springs, Ark.
J. S. Bennett, City Manager, Morehead City, N. C.
L. W. Clapp, City Manager, Wichita, Kans.
J. G. Colby, City Manager, Amarillo, Tex.
James N. Gladding, City Manager, Albuquerque, N. M.
R. G. Henry, City Manager, Hickory, N. C.
Geo. J. Roark, City Manager, Beaumont, Tex.
C. J. Ryan, City Manager, Sanford, Fla.
Howard Stillwell, City Manager, Sumter, S. C.
Sidney D. Strong, Village Manager, Plymouth, Mich.
Thos. W. Watson, City Manager, Glendale, Calif.

Assoc.:
A. E. Bickford, City Clerk, Virginia, Minn.
Irving C. Brower, Com'r public works, Evanston, Ill.
Burns and McDonnell, Consulting Engineers, Kansas City, Mo.
M. Caraballo, charter commission, Tampa, Fla.
Frank E. Danielson, Assistant Manager, Glencoe, Ill.
G. W. Dudderar, Secretary Chamber of Commerce, Lorain, O.
H. L. Hudson, Municipal Engineer, Detroit, Mich.
H. G. Haddock, Sec., Retailers' Association, Kenosha, Wis.
New London Chamber of Commerce, New London, Ct.
J. M. Rust, Credit Manager, Union Oil Co., Los Angeles, Cal.
Godfrey L. Smith, Commissioner, Newport News, Va.
G. E. Swihart, City Clerk, Sturgis, Mich.
Paul B. Wilcox, Long Beach, Calif.

"PROSPECTS"

Mt. Pleasant, Mich. A recent letter from F. Brownson, city clerk, advises that Mt. Pleasant is now seeking a city manager. A subsequent letter advises that a new charter will be voted on July 27. There seems little doubt that the plan will carry.

Crisfield, Md. A city manager will probably be employed some time in the near future, according to Dr. C. E. Collins, Deputy Health Officer of Somerset County.

LaGrange, Ill. The adoption of the village-manager plan is being considered by the LaGrange Civic Club. L. C. Jones is chairman of the investigating committee.

Coffeyville, Kans. The Chamber of Commerce has ordered 200 copies of our fifth yearbook by telegraph. A campaign for the adoption of the city manager plan began July 2. J. C. Manning, city manager of Newata, Oklahoma, addressed a Coffeyville meeting on city manager government.